

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2226

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR YO BU

SUBJ: MORE ON MARKOVSKI AWARD: "INTENSIFIED ANTI-YUGOSLAV
CAMPAIGN"

REF: BELGRADE 1049

1. MAR 10 KOMUNIST ARTICLE ENTITLED "AWARD FOR TREASON"
COMMENTS ON BULGARIAN AWARD TO MARKOVSKI (REFTEL), STATED
THAT "IN COFERRING AN ORDER ON VENKO MARKOVSKI, THE
BULGARIAN STATE COUNCIL OBVIOUSLY WISHED TO PAY TRIBUTE TO
COMINFORMIST ELEMENTS, ENCOURAGE THEM AND STIMULATE THEM TO
INTENSIFY THEIR ANTI-YUGOSLAV ACTIVITIES. CAN THIS KIND
OF PROVOCATIVE ACT OF THE HIGHEST GOVERNMENT ORGAN IN
BULGARIA BE RECONCILED WITH STATEMENTS AND ASSURANCES OF
BULGARIA'S GOOD INTENTIONS AND EFFORTS IN ITS RELATIONS
WITH YUGOSLAVIA? THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION IS CLEAR -
THOSE TWO THINGS CANNOT BE RECONCILED..."

2. AS DID MAR 7 BUDIMR TANJUG COMMENTARY, KOMUNIST
NOTES PREVIOUS MARKOVSKI PROMINENCE DURING 1968-71, LAST
PERIOD OF COOL YUGOSLAV-BULGARIAN RELATIONS, AND INTERPRETS
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HIS REAPPEARANCE AS INDICATION OF NEW COOLING BETWEEN THE TWO

COUNTRIES. BUDIMR NOTES THAT MARKOVSKI IS NOT IMPORTANT PER SE, BUT RATHER WHAT PROVOCATION MEANS AND WHERE IT MAY LEAD. HE ALSO MENTIONS RED STAR ARTICLE ON MARKOVSKI, AND IN NEXT BREATH SAYS OF REVIVAL OF "SPIRIT OF MARKOVSKI SIGNIFIES APPROVAL OF WHAT HE AND SIMILAR COMINFORMISTS DID AGAINST YUGOSLAVIA.

3. MAR 12 BORBA REPORTS SERBIAN REPUBLICAN PRESIDENCY IN DISCUSSION OF RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES CALLED RECENT BULGARIAN ACTIONS NEGATION OF MACEDONIAN NATION - WHICH BOILS DOWN TO "TERRITORIAL PRETENSIONS AGAINST OUR COUNTRY."

MILLER

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